

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07
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/089 W

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R 241644Z JUN 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2228
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS
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AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 337

FROM US REP MBFR

USSALTTWO

GENEVA FOR SEABED DEL - SLOSS

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM NATO
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SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JUNE 20-26

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN EVALUATING THE RESULTS TO DATE OF THE
DATA DISCUSSION, EASTERN REPS AT THE JUNE 21 INFORMAL SESSION OF
THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS CLAIMED THAT WESTERN
FIGURES FOR EASTERN MILITARY MANPOWER WERE BASED ON ERRONEOUS
ESTIMATES WHICH THE WEST COULD NOT SUBSTANTIATE AND THAT THE FAILURE

OF THE WEST TO RESPOND TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL TO MOVE TO CONSIDER NATIONAL MANPOWER TOTALS WAS BLOCKING FURTHER DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

2. EASTERN REPS AT THE JUNE 21 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA TALKS ASSESSED THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THE CURRENT DISCUSSION OF COUNTING RULES AND DATA. IN SO DOING, THEY ASSERTED THAT: (1) THE WEST HAS NOT SUBSTANTIATED ITS CLAIMS OF A SIGNIFICANT DISPARITY IN MILITARY MANPOWER FAVORING THE EAST IN THE REDUCTION

AREA; (2) WESTERN FIGURES FOR WARSAW PACT FORCES WERE ONLY ESTIMATES WHICH COULD NOT BE PROVED AND WHICH, IN FACT, CONTAINED SERIOUS MISCALCULATIONS; AND (3) THE FAILURE OF THE WEST TO RESPOND TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL TO TABLE SIMULTANEOUSLY SEPARATE NATIONAL MANPOWER FIGURES FOR THE FORCES IN THE AREA OF EACH DIRECT PARTICIPANT WAS BLOCKING FURTHER, MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF DATA. IN THE COURSE OF EXCHANGING ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONCERNING DATA, EASTERN REPS REQUESTED MORE CLARIFICATION ON ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE PERSONNEL THE WEST HAD EXCLUDED FROM ITS COUNT OF WARSAW PACT MANPOWER STRENGTH.

3. DURING THE BALANCE OF THE JUNE 21 INFORMAL SESSION, EASTERN REPS OUTLINED THEIR POSITION AS REGARDS ASSOCIATED MEASURES. THEY MAINTAINED THAT THE CHARACTER OF SUCH MEASURES WOULD DEPEND ON THE NATURE OF THE REDUCTION AGREEMENT. THUS, IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO DISCUSS THE SECONDARY TOPIC OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES UNTIL THERE WAS
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AGREEMENT ON THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF REDUCTIONS. EASTERN REPS CRITICIZED THE SPECIFIC STABILIZING MEASURES ADVANCED BY THE WEST FOR APPLYING ONLY TO SOVIET AND US FORCES AND FOR OMITTING COVERAGE OF AIR FORCES. THEY NOTED THAT EXCEPTIONS TO AGREED MANPOWER CEILINGS PROPOSED BY THE WEST FOR PURPOSES OF EXERCISES AND ROTATION CONFLICTED WITH THE EASTERN VIEW THAT, ONCE IN EFFECT, PARTICIPANTS SHOULD STRICTLY ADHERE TO SUCH CEILINGS. WESTERN REPS SHOWED WHY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EASTERN REDUCTION APPROACH WOULD DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF WESTERN PARTICIPANTS, REFUTED INCORRECT EASTERN STATEMENTS MADE AT THE JUNE 14 SESSION CONCERNING ARMAMENTS, AND POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS NO PRACTICAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE COMMITMENTS PROPOSED BY THE EAST FOR THE US AND USSR IN A FIRST-STAGE AGREEMENT AND THE COMMITMENTS SOUGHT BY THE EAST FROM OTHER WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE SAME AGREEMENT.

4. BELGIAN REP SMOLDEREN MADE THE ONLY FORMAL STATEMENT AT THE JUNE 23 PLENARY MEETING. HIS PRESENTATION REVIEWED THE CONTENT OF AGREEMENTS REACHED DURING THE PREPARATORY TALKS AS RECORDED IN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF JUNE 28, 1973, IN THE LIGHT OF PERSISTENT EASTERN ATTEMPTS TO READ MUCH MORE INTO THAT DOCUMENT THAN THE FACTS JUSTIFIED. SMOLDEREN CALLED UPON EASTERN REPS, INSTEAD OF TRYING TO DISTORT THE MEANING OF THE COMMUNIQUE, TO BRING THEIR POSITION

INTO CONFORMITY WITH ITS ACTUAL TERMS SO AS TO PERMIT ACHIEVEMTN
OF THE AGREED GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF CONTRIBUTING TO A MORE STABLE
RELATIONSHIP AND STRENGTHENED PEACE AND SECURITY IN EUROPE.
RESOR

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